

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/075,656

Examiner

John J. Tabone, Jr.

Applicant(s)

RICHTER, DETLEV

Art Unit

2117

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to arguments filed 04/11/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_



GUY LAMARRE  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

John J. Tabone, Jr.  
Examiner  
AU 2117

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-13 are currently pending in the application and have been examined.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Kerry P. Sisselman on 06/21/2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

**Claim 1**, line 10: Change "a first circuit" to "first circuits".

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments, filed 04/11/2007, with respect to claims 1 and 7 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The Non-Final Rejection of 01/11/2007 has been withdrawn.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

**4. Claims 1-13 are allowed.**

The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

The present invention relates to a semiconductor module with a plurality of interface circuits and a configuration for the self-test of interface circuits. The application furthermore relates to a method for the self-test of interface circuits of such a semiconductor module.

The claimed invention as set forth in **claim 1** recites features such as:

A semiconductor module with a configuration for the self-test of a plurality of bidirectionally operating interface circuits, comprising:

first and second equally sized groups of interface circuits, wherein each interface circuit of said first group is assigned exactly one interface circuit of said second group;

a respective electrical connection of the interface circuits of said first and second groups to outside of the semiconductor module, for enabling a self-test;

first circuits connected to said first group and serving to generate test signals to be multiplexed in and output via said interface circuits of said first group;

a second circuit connected to said second group for receiving and processing test signals received via said interface circuits of Said second group; and

a respective separate voltage supply for said first and second groups of interface circuits.

The Examiner agrees with the Applicant's arguments, filed 04/11/2007, with regard to the allowable features in view of the arts of record, namely **Bates et al.** (US-

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6477674); therefore, the Examiner favors the allowance of **claims 1-13**. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

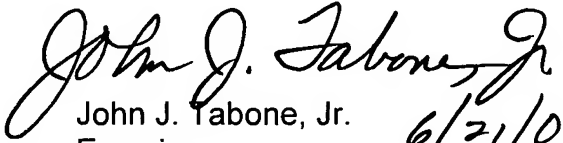
### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John J. Tabone, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3827. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JACQUES H. LOUIS JACQUES can be reached on (571) 272-6962. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
John J. Tabone, Jr.  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2117  
6/21/07

  
GUY LAMARRE  
PRIMARY EXAMINER